

*Behold I am making all things new!*

*Write this down for these words are trustworthy and true...*

*To the thirsty, I will give water as a gift from the springs of life.*

WITH THIS INVITATION GIVEN TOWARDS THE end of the book of Revelation (21: 5-6) to renew all with hope, we send you this new edition and renewed format of our Bulletin. We go back to the beginning when in the early days of the Priory we sent out a simple newsletter telling the stories of our emerging monastic life, yet one that is ever new in its message and color. Our hope is that this printed version will give a taste leading to the waters that will quench this thirst even more with additional and enhanced stories on our website [www.westonpriory.org](http://www.westonpriory.org) throughout the coming year(s).

In this Easter and Pentecost Season we tell the stories of our common life's journey to bring the good news of peace and hope to one another in the midst of worldwide terror and confusion. At times we can be slow in heart and understanding to recognize a Presence already among us and to have our eyes opened as we are invited to the table for the breaking of the bread.

During our visit to our Benedictine Sisters in Mexico at the end of January this year, they took us to an indigenous village to meet young families living and working in community together as they recover the ancestral roots of their families' ecological concern and care in the cultivation of the land and earth.

As we were sitting at table for a wonderful lunch of homemade tortillas and chicken vegetable soup prepared from produce of their family gardens, we were having a conversation about their lives and struggles. Suddenly one of the young men, Valentín said, "I have been to the United States. I went before I got married to make some money so that I could provide a home and a future for my family." Valentín worked as a busboy and dishwasher in restaurants in Queens, New York, and northern New Jersey for a couple years before returning to his village in Mexico. He is now married and tenderly cares as a father for his three young children.

Then one of the older middle-aged men at table chimed in and said, "I also had to go a couple years



Tetela del Volcán, Morelos, Mexico

ago to earn money for my three teenage children who were hoping to continue their studies at the university." Isaías had gone to Chicago where he worked as trash pick-up man for a couple of years. He said he could not wait to return to his family even though he enjoyed experiencing and coming to know a little of the life in the United States. His whole extended family and many friends had gathered together to joyfully celebrate his return when he set foot again among them in Mexico.

In both cases their co-workers and employers begged them not to leave as they were needed and appreciated for their hard work and simple dependable spirit. They came to the United States only out of necessity.

In this bulletin we share stories from our experience that have astounded us and entrusts us with unsettling questions. How can people so economically deprived be so rich in hope and generosity? Do they touch our deepest thirst?

*The heavens proclaim the glory of God...*

*One day speaks revealing to the next,  
while night to night imparts a new understanding...*

*Their message goes out through all the earth  
and their story to the utmost end of the world.*

—Psalm 19 ■